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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/624,188	07/22/2003	Adel Farhan Halasa	DN2002-237P01	6848

7590

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The Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company  
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EXAMINER

TESKIN, FRED M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1713

DATE MAILED: 06/02/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No. 10/624,188	Applicant(s) HALASA ET AL.
Examiner Fred M Teskin	Art Unit 1713

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

## A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on \_\_\_\_.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Oathperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-848)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/06)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 090203.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_

Claims 1-20 are currently pending and under examination in this C-I-P application of prior pending application no. 10/384,020.

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- (i) the continuity data (specification, page 1) should be updated to include the present status of the parent (nonprovisional) application;
- (ii) at page 56, line 4, "synthesized" is misspelled; and
- (iii) at page 58, lines 28-29, the reference to "terpolymer obtained in Example 1 (1,23 vs. 1.05) ..." appears incorrect, inasmuch as Example 1 is directed to synthesis of a functionalized monomer, not a polymer.

Appropriate correction of the specification is required.

The lengthy specification has not been checked to the extent necessary to determine the presence of all possible minor errors. Applicant's cooperation is requested in correcting any errors of which applicant may become aware in the specification.

The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. See *In re Goodman*, 11 F.3d 1046, 29 USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); *In re Longi*, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); *In re Van Ornum*, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); *In re Vogel*, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and, *In re Thorington*, 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent is shown to be commonly owned with this application. See 37 CFR 1.130(b).

Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).

Claims 1-20 are rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-6, 8-12, 16 and 18-20 of U.S. Patent No. 6,630,552. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because they differ merely in matters of scope and/or semantics. In particular, in the patented invention, the functionalized monomer is defined by a structural formula (a), among others, which includes a moiety  $-(CH_2)_x-Z$  wherein x represents an integer from 1 to about 10 and Z represents a nitrogen containing heterocyclic compound. As such, the patent literally covers copolymerizing the same species of functionalized monomer as represented by applicants' formula (a) as set out in claims 1 and 2 hereof. Apart from the difference in scope of functionalized monomer, both sets of claims are directed to essentially the same subject matter; i.e., process for synthesizing a rubbery polymer.

Claims 1-20 are free of the prior art of record.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The use of a functionalized monomer bearing a cyclic amino ethyl substituent (per formula (a), (b), (f) and (g)) or an amino or cyclic amino ethoxy ethyl substituent (per formula (c)-(e)) in the claimed process for synthesizing a rubbery polymer in the absence of conventional polar modifiers is not disclosed nor fairly suggested in any prior

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art document(s) located or identified by the examiner as of the date of this Office action. Moreover, the specification presents side-by-side experimentation demonstrating that a rubbery terpolymer derived from PES, a cyclic amino ethyl functionalized monomer, possesses an unexpectedly narrower molecular weight distribution than a comparative terpolymer derived from PMS, the corresponding cyclic amino methyl functionalized monomer. (Specification, pages 57-58.)

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Examiner F. M. Teskin whose telephone number is (571) 272-1116. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday from 7:00 AM - 4:30 PM, and can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wu, can be reached on (571) 272-1114. The appropriate fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

FMTeskin/05-26-04



FRED TESKIN  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
1713